GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:546
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2002
LAPSE BY TECHNICIAN
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the `Rashtriya Sahara` dated June 4, 2002 under the caption `Nashe mein dhut technician ne oxygen roki, derh darjan bachche maut ke munh mein jate-jate bache`;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to stop recurrence of such incidents in hospitals?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. According to the information received from Lady Hardinge Medical College & Associated Hospitals, immediately on detection of disruption in oxygen supply for around 4-5 minutes in Kalawati Saran Children`s Hospital on 2.6.2002, in the early hours (2.30 am), the oxygen cylinders available in Wards/Units were made operational to prevent any casualties. The disruption occurred due to negligence of the pipeline operator on duty who was found in an inebriated condition. He was immediately placed under suspension. Besides, preliminary enquiry conducted by the Hospital Authorities has found him prima facie guilty resulting in departmental enquiry against him.

(c) The LHMC & Associated Hospitals have informed that to stop recurrence of such incidents, spare oxygen cylinders available in their specialized areas like ICU, Wards etc. are made operational in the event of any such incidents.Besides, a Chief Medical Officer has been deputed to monitor the functioning of the Manifold Room and to conduct surprise checks at regular intervals.